

REMARKS

By the above amendment, Expressions 1 and 4 at pages 10 and 22 of the specification have been corrected to insert " \ln ", representing the logarithmic function before $(1-1/N)$, with the same correction being made to claim 5.

With regard to the requirement for election of a single species of the Species I - X, as identified by the Examiner at page 2 of the office action, applicants elect Species II - Fig. 2, as identified by the Examiner, and submit that at least claims 1 - 6 and 9 - 11 are readable on the elected species.

Applicants note that since claim 1 is the only independent claim in this application and the remaining claims are dependent claims which depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, claim 1 is necessarily a generic claim, and upon allowance of claim 1, applicants submit that all claims should be considered and found allowable.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicants request favorable action with respect to the elected species.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 1113.45152X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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